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December 20, 2007  
Via Mail & Fax

Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

I write you during this holy season to give my utmost support to the pleas asking you to grant a Christmas pardon to former Congressman Mario Biaggi.

As you know, from the eloquent letters from distinguished public servants, he is now 90 years old and in very poor health.

Congressman Biaggi was convicted of major crimes in 1988 and was sentenced to imprisonment for eight years and fined \$242,000. He was imprisoned on April 10, 1989, and released with a medical discharge on June 19, 1991. His petition for pardon after completion of sentence was filed on August 13, 1999 and it remains pending before the Pardon Attorney in the Department of Justice.

As a former Queens County prosecutor and Deputy Chief of the Homicide Bureau I am aware of the importance of punishment in the criminal justice system. I firmly believe in this meritorious case, that debt to society has been paid by trial, conviction, imprisonment, fine and shame and humiliation for him and his beloved family, as well as a subsequent life of rectitude and redress.

I have known former Congressman Biaggi for over 35 years. I consider him a friend and one of the finest individuals I have ever known.

I know that he remains very active on behalf of the law enforcement community and has received awards for his past and current work in support of our courageous law enforcement

officers. At the cost of much physical exertion, stress and pain, despite his physical handicaps he attends many law enforcement events and is an inspiration and comfort to attendees.

Through his efforts and participation, many scholarships have been given and made available to young people. Because of his background as a much decorated and respected New York City police officer, many are in the area of law enforcement. His active participation, support and attendance is by no means confined to those recipients, but includes many ethnic backgrounds, races and religions.

In the Italian American charitable community, he is a constant supporter and presence and is accorded their well deserved gratitude.

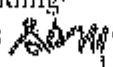
I know that you are a leader of great understanding and compassion. I respectfully submit to you that this is a case where a Presidential pardon is appropriate and merited. For his family, loved ones and friends and for a repentant, deserving man, please grant this Christmas pardon.

With utmost respect and admiration

Sincerely,

SERPHIN R. MALTESE  
Senator, Queens County

SRM:gs

CC: Chief of Staff Joshua Bolten  
Counsel to the President Fred Fielding  
✓ Pardon Attorney Roger C. Adams   
Honorable Karl Rove